Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Peace Corps has become an enduring symbol of our nation's commitment to encourage progress, create opportunity, and expand development at the grass-roots level in the developing world; and,

Whereas, More than 170,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in 137 countries since 1961; and,

Whereas, Over the past 43 years, 495 men and women from the state of South Dakota have responded to our nation's call to serve by joining the Peace Corps; and,

Whereas, Peace Corps Volunteers have made significant and lasting contributions around the world in agriculture, business development, information technology, education, health and HIV/AIDS, and the environment, and have improved the lives of individuals and communities around the world; and,

Whereas, Peace Corps Volunteers have strengthened the ties of friendship and understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries; and,

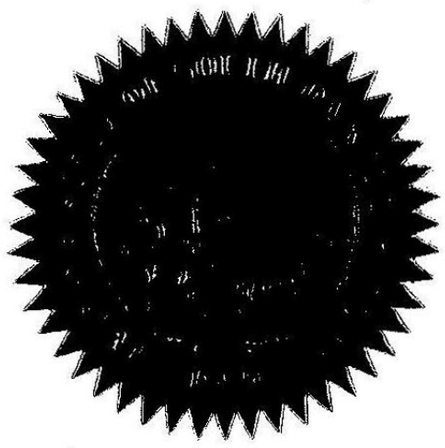
Whereas, Peace Corps Volunteers, enriched by their experiences overseas, have brought their communities throughout the United States a deeper understanding of other cultures and traditions, thereby bringing a domestic dividend to our nation; and,

Whereas, It is indeed fitting to recognize the achievements of the Peace Corps and honor its volunteers, past and present, and reaffirm our country's commitment to helping people help themselves throughout the world:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 1-7, 2004, as

PEACE CORPS WEEK

in South Dakota, and urge our citizens to commend this observance.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State